

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
COUNCIL**

Distr.
LIMITED
E/ESCWA/2012/C.7/3
24 October 2012
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Technical Committee
Seventh meeting
Amman, 18-19 March 2013

Item 3 of the provisional agenda

PROPOSED ESCWA PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE BIENNIUM 2014-2015**Summary**

The proposed programme of work of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) for the biennium 2014-2015 was prepared on the basis of programme 19 on economic and social development in Western Asia, of the United Nations proposed strategic framework for the same period. It presents the proposed outputs to be delivered by each of the seven subprogrammes under programme 19 and the pertaining strategy, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement, performance measures and external factors.

This document does not provide information on resource requirements, as only the Secretary-General can issue such information in his proposed United Nations programme budget, which will be reviewed by relevant United Nations intergovernmental bodies before being approved by the General Assembly.

To ensure that the ESCWA programme of work, as required by the United Nations, is demand driven and responds to the needs of member countries, the secretariat is presenting the proposed programme of work for the biennium 2014-2015 to the Technical Committee for consideration. The representatives of member countries are invited to review it and comment on it with a view to adopting it prior to its submission to the General Assembly for endorsement.

CONTENT

Page

Introduction	3
Overall orientation.....	4
SUBPROGRAMME 1. INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	9
SUBPROGRAMME 2. SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	16
SUBPROGRAMME 3. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION	21
SUBPROGRAMME 4. INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY FOR REGIONAL INTEGRATION.....	27
SUBPROGRAMME 5. STATISTICS FOR EVIDENCE-BASED POLICYMAKING.....	32
SUBPROGRAMME 6. ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN	37
SUBPROGRAMME 7. CONFLICT MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT	42
<i>Annex. Legislative mandates</i>	<i>48</i>

Introduction

1. The proposed programme of work of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) for the biennium 2014-2015 was prepared on the basis of programme 19 on economic and social development in Western Asia, of the United Nations proposed strategic framework for the period 2014-2015,¹ as modified by the United Nations Committee for Programme and Coordination at its fifty-second session (New York, 4-29 June 2012). The revised strategic framework of ESCWA for the biennium 2014-2015² was endorsed by ESCWA at its twenty-seventh session (Beirut, 7-10 May 2012).
2. This document reproduces the overall orientation of programme 19 as set out in the strategic framework, before presenting the following details for each of the seven subprogrammes under programme 19: objective of the subprogramme, its expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures; strategy; external factors; and proposed outputs to be delivered under the subprogramme during the biennium 2014-2015.
3. This proposed programme of work does not provide information on resource requirements, since the United Nations Secretary-General has not yet issued the proposed United Nations programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015. The resource requirements for programme 19 are presented in section 22 of the proposed programme budget, which comprises 35 sections. That proposed budget, which includes the proposed programme of work and the required financial resources for all the sections, will be reviewed by the United Nations Programme Planning and Budget Division and by the Secretary-General. Once it is issued by the Secretary-General, it will be reviewed by the Advisory Committee for Administrative and Budgetary Questions, the Committee for Programme and Coordination, and the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly, prior to being reviewed and adopted by the General Assembly.
4. During the process of budget review, the proposed programme of work, as submitted to the Technical Committee at its seventh meeting, may undergo slight modifications. Any amendments introduced to it by the intergovernmental review bodies will be communicated to ESCWA member countries through their respective national focal points.
5. In proposing the outputs of the seven subprogrammes, the secretariat has given due consideration to the following:
 - (a) Emerging global and regional issues and mandates;
 - (b) The outcome of the twenty-seventh session of the Commission and the recommendations made by its intergovernmental bodies at their respective sessions;
 - (c) Regional monitoring and reporting requirements of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;
 - (d) Concluded agreements and strategic partnerships at the global and regional levels;
 - (e) Linkages between the normative, analytical and operational aspects of the work of ESCWA.
6. To ensure that the ESCWA programme of work, as required by the United Nations, is demand driven and responds to the needs of member countries, the secretariat is presenting it to the Technical Committee for consideration. The Committee is invited to review it and comment on it with a view to adopting it.

¹ General Assembly, *Proposed strategic framework for the period 2014-2015, Programme 19, Economic and social development in Western Asia*, A/67/6 (Prog. 19). Available from <http://documents.un.org>.

² ESCWA, *Revised draft strategic framework for the biennium 2014-2015*, E/ESCWA/27/7. Available from <http://documents.un.org>.

Overall orientation

19.1 The overall orientation of programme 19 on economic and social development in Western Asia, is to foster comprehensive, equitable, integrated and sustainable development through effective economic and social cooperation in the region, and to maintain and strengthen economic relations between ESCWA member countries of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) and with other countries, paying special consideration to the least developed and conflict-stricken countries. ESCWA is responsible for the implementation of the programme.

19.2 Policy direction for the programme is provided in Economic and Social Council resolutions 1818 (LV) and 1985/69, establishing ESCWA and amending its terms of reference in order to underscore the social functions of the Commission. Further direction is provided in Economic and Social Council resolution 2005/50, in which ESCWA was requested to provide support to member countries in realizing the Millennium Development Goals, including by building capacity to formulate policies, monitor the progress made, measure its impact and prepare regional reports. In addition, in its resolution 269 (XXIV), the Commission requested its Executive Secretary to increase coherence and synergy with other regional United Nations organizations and, through the Commission's lead role in the Regional Coordination Mechanism, foster partnerships and cooperation with those organizations.

19.3 As a regional arm of the United Nations, ESCWA will continue to foster economic integration at the subregional and regional levels, to promote the regional implementation of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and to support regional sustainable development by contributing to bridging economic, social and environmental policy gaps in its member countries. To achieve those objectives, ESCWA, through its convening power, will continue to advance multilateral dialogue, knowledge-sharing and networking at the regional level, and will work with the other regional commissions to promote intraregional and interregional cooperation, both between themselves and through collaboration with other subregional and regional organizations.

19.4 Since late 2010, the political landscape of the Arab region has experienced dramatic transformations. ESCWA will play a crucial and unique role in facilitating Governments responses to meet the needs of their citizens by assisting member countries in addressing current policy weaknesses and enhancing their capacity to effectively address inequalities, and by using its convening power to provide a forum for member countries to discuss and share views on overall economic, social and sustainable development issues in the region.

19.5 It should be noted that the proposed strategic framework for the period 2014-2015 takes into consideration the impending 2015 deadline for the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals, and therefore efforts to support member countries to fast-track their commitments, to the 2010 Global Action Plan on the Millennium Development Goals in particular, are emphasized throughout.

19.6 In the light of the challenges highlighted above and to capitalize on the opportunities presented by the movement towards a more expansive social and political horizon and exploit its capacity to the fullest, ESCWA engaged in an extensive process of consultation within and outside the Commission in relation to the proposed strategic framework to ensure that the needs of both member countries and the citizens of the region were captured.

19.7 The purpose of this exercise is to establish a medium-term plan (lasting between two and four years) up to the target date for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals; to provide a framework for integrating the work of the Commission more effectively around three strategic pillars; to streamline planning processes and ensure greater coherence between the objectives and strategies on the one hand, and the activities, outputs and performance measures on the other hand; and to show how work under each subprogramme will affect the region's economic and social development challenges. This will increase the

impact of ESCWA activities and facilitate evaluation and review with a view to measuring impact at the institutional level.

19.8 ESCWA will focus its work on inclusive and sustainable development in the region. The programme comprises seven interdependent subprogrammes that focus on three strategic pillars. These pillars serve as mainstays for work to be implemented in 12 priority areas, and are underpinned by three cross-cutting issues. Specifically, ESCWA is expanding its integrated planning approach so that several or all of its subprogrammes play a joint role in contributing to the impacts that it is to achieve, meaning that there will be no strategic pillars that are solely the purview of any single subprogramme. The proposed strategic framework for the period 2014-2015 thus not only reflects the activities of individual work units but also deals with those of ESCWA as a fully integrated body.

19.9 The three strategic pillars of ESCWA are: equitable growth and sustainability; regional integration; and good governance and resilience. Using these pillars, ESCWA is building fully integrated workplans within those priority areas on which more than one subprogramme is focused. Throughout its work, ESCWA will achieve more than simply implementing the programmed outputs. It will target predetermined and measurable outcomes under each priority area, paying particular attention to changes in practice by member countries in line with the objectives set under each subprogramme. To this end, ESCWA will shift the focus of its monitoring and implementation efforts from the individual outputs or workplans of each subprogramme to their overall contribution to the outcomes established for each priority area and strategic pillar.

19.10 Through its work on equitable growth and sustainability, ESCWA will increase the capacity of member countries to formulate and/or implement policies that promote equitable, resilient and sustainable development as a critical tool for broadening opportunities for human development through equitable and sustainable growth. It will focus on three priority areas: equity, inclusion and employment; competitive knowledge-based economies; and sustainable natural resource management.

19.11 In its work on equity, inclusion and employment, ESCWA will focus on strengthening the capacity of member countries to develop and increase inclusive and equitable socio-economic conditions through integrated workplans under subprogrammes 1 to 3 on the development of rights-based social policies that promote social integration, social protection, the provision of adequate social services and employment generation; pro-poor growth policies focused on employment generation and inclusive and equitable financial policies; and increasing the productivity of small and medium-sized enterprises for employment creation and economic diversification.

19.12 In the area of competitive knowledge-based economies, ESCWA will build integrated workplans under subprogrammes 3 and 4 focusing on enhancing the capacity of member countries to develop and make fully operational knowledge-based economies for sustainable economic growth and poverty alleviation through effective macroeconomic management, in addition to promoting economic diversification and competitiveness for decent job creation. In terms of sustainable natural resource management, ESCWA, under subprogramme 1, will enhance the capacity of member countries to develop and implement national, subregional and regional policies, strategies and action plans for the sustainable management of water, energy and land in line with agreements reached at major United Nations conferences on sustainable development and provisions of relevant multilateral environmental agreements.

19.13 Under the regional integration strategic pillar, ESCWA will enhance regional prosperity through strengthened regional cooperation, focusing on five priority areas: knowledge and technology management; sustainable infrastructure; socio-economic policy coordination; food, water and energy security; and gender-sensitive policies and legislation.

19.14 In terms of knowledge and technology management, ESCWA, under subprogramme 4, will expand the realization of an inclusive, people-centred and development-oriented information society in the region.

Where sustainable infrastructure is concerned, ESCWA, under subprogramme 3, will enhance regional integration of member countries by developing and harmonizing physical and legislative infrastructure in the region, including frameworks associated with the Integrated Transport System in the Arab Mashreq. As to social and economic policy coordination, ESCWA will promote regionally coordinated social and economic policies, and ensure the implementation of regional economic agreements to realize the potential for intraregional integration and build a harmonized policy framework for the legislation required to govern e-commerce, e-service, e-trade and e-business between Arab countries. This effort will require integrated work under subprogrammes 3 and 4, including the full contribution of the ESCWA Technology Centre. Under subprogramme 1, ESCWA will work to enhance the food, water and energy security of the Arab region for its sustained long-term development and to preserve achievements in poverty alleviation and human development by promoting regional cooperation on shared water resources, energy networks and land management. Through subprogramme 6, it will also promote regional integration by supporting the adoption of gender-sensitive policies and legislation in order to attain equal rights of women in line with international conventions, conferences and internationally agreed development goals.

19.15 Under the good governance and resilience strategic pillar, ESCWA will strengthen the capacity of member countries to build engagement between Governments and their citizens, to identify and respond to potential conflict and other vulnerabilities, and to formulate resilience measures to mitigate the negative impacts of such conflicts and other vulnerabilities. To accomplish these objectives, ESCWA will focus on four priority areas: participation and citizenship; social and economic impacts of conflict and occupation; institutional development; and resilience to natural and human-made crises.

19.16 Through its work on participation and citizenship, ESCWA will encourage the adoption and implementation of participatory and inclusive governance and national development policies based on the equal participation of men and women, with a particular focus on enhancing the position of women in democratic decision-making processes, in addition to ensuring the participation of civil society and other stakeholders in public policy formulation, implementation and monitoring. This priority area will require integrated workplans under subprogrammes 2, 6 and 7.

19.17 Under the priority area on social and economic impacts of conflict and occupation, ESCWA, under subprogramme 7, will support member countries in mitigating the negative impact of occupation, the ramifications of conflict and their spillover effects on human development in the region, particularly on Arab least developed countries. Under the priority area on institutional development, through integrated work under subprogrammes 3, 6 and 7, ESCWA will support public institutions to create an enabling environment for development, pre-empting conflicts and achieving reconciliation and peace through nationally led and owned good governance practices for the implementation of enhanced macroeconomic management; promoting efficient, transparent and accountable civil service including effective public service delivery as tools to pre-empt conflicts and achieve reconciliation and peace; and using institutional development and good governance structures to promote the adoption of legislation and national action plans to combat gender-based violence.

19.18 Through its work on resilience to natural and human-made crises, ESCWA, through subprogramme 1, will support member countries in building their capacity to absorb and respond to the impact of crises through the development of sound policies, including the creation of subregional and regional mechanisms to ensure a coordinated response to climate change and natural crises.

19.19 The ESCWA programme of work will be guided by three cross-cutting issues — partnerships, knowledge management and gender — on which the workplan of subprogramme 5 (statistics for evidence-based policymaking) is focused.

19.20 Taking into account the new strategic pillars and the relatively limited human and financial resources, it becomes vital to develop holistic strategic partnerships with other regional stakeholders, which in turn should contribute to the fulfilment of the objectives of ESCWA.

19.21 ESCWA is reviewing each priority area to identify the relevant actors from United Nations bodies, civil society organizations and the private sector, among others, with which it would be strategically opportune to forge relationships in order to maximize success in implementing the workplans. Identification of the activities and the implementing partners will provide a framework for comprehensive memorandums of understanding to take advantage of the opportunities and benefits that these arrangements will bring for ESCWA and the region as a whole. Principally, ESCWA will complete a five-year comprehensive agreement with the League of Arab States that will cement the relationship between the two organizations and ensure that the synergies and complementarities between them are fully exploited.

19.22 ESCWA will focus in particular on promoting South-South cooperation between its member countries and with other developing countries through the regional commissions as a catalyst for improving capacity-development efforts and to identify opportunities for intraregional activities.

19.23 The nature of ESCWA work demands that it become a leading knowledge-based institution, meaning that knowledge-sharing requires greater attention throughout its work. This applies to the internal processes of the ESCWA secretariat, the Commission's relationship to member countries and partners and the work of subsidiary intergovernmental, technical and expert bodies.

19.24 The convening power of ESCWA has significant potential to disseminate knowledge that has yet to be fully tapped. A core role of intergovernmental processes is to facilitate exchange of experience between experts from countries in the region and accelerate the development of technical skills, decision-making, governance, management and implementation of new policy options through peer-to-peer learning. In particular, ESCWA will focus on follow-up to technical and expert meetings, workshops and seminars, maintaining and moderating networks of experts and stimulating a productive exchange of information.

19.25 Through subprogramme 5 on statistics for evidence-based decision-making, ESCWA has taken the lead in coordinating statistical information in the region. Work under this subprogramme will improve the provision of statistical data about member countries through collection and dissemination of official statistics and indicators to support informed policymaking; enhance national capacity in line with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics to produce relevant, timely, reliable and comparable official statistics; and strengthen a regional statistical system in support of regional integration.

19.26 ESCWA will use its leadership of the Task Force on Statistical Coordination of the Regional Coordination Mechanism to promote coordination of statistics between national and international organizations active in the region. It has also put in place an internal coordination mechanism for statistical activities.

19.27 Gender is a cross-cutting issue deeply influencing all ESCWA work. Men and women have different needs and priorities in the development process, just as the way in which they gain access to and control resources differs. Accordingly, each ESCWA intervention must have a gender perspective.

19.28 ESCWA work in gender mainstreaming has two components. The first is to assist member countries to promote gender equality and the advancement of women, and the second to integrate a gender perspective into the ESCWA programme of work. ESCWA will continue to lead United Nations entities in the implementation of the action plan for the implementation of the United Nations system-wide policy on gender equality and the empowerment of women endorsed by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination in October 2006 (CEB/2006/2 and Corr.1, annex).

19.29 ESCWA will continue to carry out analytical and normative work and also provide technical cooperation support in line with the needs of its member countries. It will facilitate exchange of knowledge and information by providing a forum for networking and multilateral dialogue on regional and global development issues, while giving due consideration to the advancement of South-South cooperation. Special attention will be paid to the promotion of gender mainstreaming in accordance with the global priorities of

the United Nations. Similarly, lessons learned from evaluation exercises will be consolidated to improve the design and performance of programmes, in view of the United Nations commitment to encouraging and supporting evaluation practices to enhance learning and accountability.

19.30 It is anticipated that the consultations that have taken place between the thematic clusters of the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs will contribute to enhanced coordination and collaboration in major common work areas of the Secretariat dealing with economic and social development. Moreover, through its leadership of the Regional Coordination Mechanism, ESCWA will facilitate consultation processes among the United Nations entities concerned, leading to the identification of priority areas where collective support for development interventions could be provided, whether at the level of the ESCWA region or in the broader context of the Arab region.

19.31 The indicators of achievement used below are intended to measure direct impacts of ESCWA work and to show a link between the implementation of the ESCWA work programme and the expected accomplishments.

SUBPROGRAMME 1

INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Objective: To achieve sustainable development in the region through integrated natural resource management.

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
(a) Strengthened capacity of member countries to develop and increase inclusive and equitable socioeconomic opportunities by increasing the productivity of small and medium-sized enterprises for employment creation and economic diversification	<p>(a)(i) Increased number of measures formulated by line ministries, chambers of commerce and other actors on small and medium-sized enterprises to increase their productivity</p> <p><i>Performance measures</i></p> <p>2010-2011: 0 measures Estimate for 2012-2013: 0 measures Target for 2014-2015: 3 measures</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of institutions involved in creating opportunities for generating employment through small and medium-sized enterprises</p> <p><i>Performance measures</i></p> <p>2010-2011: 6 institutions Estimate for 2012-2013: 10 institutions Target for 2014-2015: 13 institutions</p>
(b) Enhanced capacity of member countries to develop and implement national, subregional and regional policies, strategies and action plans for the sustainable management of water, energy and land	<p>(b)(i) Increased number of policies, plans and strategies adopted by relevant ministries in member countries addressing water, energy and land needs</p> <p><i>Performance measures</i></p> <p>2010-2011: 0 policies/plans/strategies Estimate for 2012-2013: 0 policies/plans/strategies Target for 2014-2015: 3 policies/plans/strategies</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of interventions to improve access to and efficiency of water and energy services</p> <p><i>Performance measures</i></p> <p>2010-2011: 4 interventions Estimate for 2012-2013: 7 interventions Target for 2014-2015: 9 interventions</p>
(c) Enhanced food, water and energy security of the Arab region to sustain long-term development and preserve the achievements in poverty alleviation and human development by promoting regional cooperation on shared water resources, energy networks and land management	(c) Increased number of intergovernmental recommendations adopted on regional cooperative initiatives related to water, energy and food security

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
(d) Enhanced resilience and crisis management capacity of member countries to absorb and respond to the impact of crises, including the development of subregional and regional mechanisms for a coordinated response to climate change and natural crises	<i>Performance measures</i>
	2010-2011: 6 recommendations
	Estimate for 2012-2013: 10 recommendations
	Target for 2014-2015: 14 recommendations
(d)	(d) Increased number of recommendations adopted by member countries, that aim at coordinated responses to climate change and natural crises
<i>Performance measures</i>	
2010-2011: 0 recommendation	
Estimate for 2012-2013: 5 recommendations	
Target for 2014-2015: 10 recommendations	

STRATEGY

19.32 The responsibility for implementing subprogramme 1 lies with the Sustainable Development and Productivity Division. The interrelated and complex challenges facing the region and the current social and political tensions have wide-ranging consequences that provide an appropriate opportunity for concerted efforts to strengthen the inter-linkages between the economic, social and environmental pillars of sustainable development and to galvanize action at the national and regional levels. The regional challenges include increasing population pressure and the related rise in demand for water and energy services; rising unemployment, particularly among young people; unsustainable production and consumption patterns; the need to ensure water, energy and food security; the disparity between urban and rural development; low agricultural productivity; traffic congestion and unsustainable transport systems; and climate change and its impact on water resources, desertification and land management.

19.33 To enhance the impact of the work of ESCWA and improve its services to the countries of the region, the work under this subprogramme will focus on providing support to those countries to address the above-mentioned challenges and to move towards a more sustainable development pathway.

19.34 The subprogramme will undertake or continue to pursue the following actions:

(a) Advocating and raising awareness of global commitments, particularly the Millennium Development Goals, and the outcomes of major United Nations conferences on sustainable development, especially the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), and to monitor and support follow-up actions;

(b) Serving as a forum for promoting policy dialogue on sustainable development issues and priorities for forging regional positions and perspectives based on the exchange of information, lessons learned and best practice;

(c) Supporting member countries in their efforts to improve the efficient use of renewable and non-renewable water, energy and land resources, including the application of appropriate environment-friendly technologies, and encourage the integrated management of water, energy and land to achieve sustainable development;

(d) Facilitating regional cooperation and coordination on water, energy and land as the means to enhance food, water and energy security;

(e) Contributing to national and regional capacity-building, especially on water, energy, including renewable energy and agricultural issues;

(f) Supporting the development of national or regional mechanisms for the integration of the economic, social and environmental pillars of sustainable development;

(g) Supporting the development of national or regional mechanisms to address climate change impacts;

(h) Supporting the efforts of member countries to strengthen small and medium-sized enterprises for job creation and economic diversification.

19.35 This will be achieved by servicing intergovernmental bodies; conducting quality research and analytical work; organizing intergovernmental and expert meetings; providing advisory services; implementing field projects, including extrabudgetary and United Nations Development Account projects; building capacity through workshops and other technical assistance activities; and issuing technical material to raise awareness of key sustainable development issues and challenges targeted for global and regional action in 2014 and 2015.

19.36 The work under this subprogramme will strive to maximize synergies through collaboration with United Nations agencies and organizations, including the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and through participation in the United Nations inter-agency coordination mechanisms on water resources and energy, namely the UN-Water and UN-Energy, and the Regional Coordination Mechanism. It will continue to cooperate with the League of Arab States and its associated bodies, particularly the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment, the Arab Ministerial Council for Water and the Arab Ministerial Council for Electricity, in addition to other regional mechanisms for coordination on sustainable development.

EXTERNAL FACTORS

Subprogramme 1 will achieve its expected accomplishments provided that: (a) member countries remain committed to giving due priority to sustainable development issues and adopt appropriate measures; (b) political stability is improved and member countries are willing to cooperate on sustainable development issues; and (c) there is no significant shortfalls in extrabudgetary resources.

OUTPUTS

During the biennium 2014-2015, the following outputs are expected to be delivered under subprogramme 1:

(a) *Servicing intergovernmental and expert bodies*

(i) *Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (twenty-eighth session)*

Parliamentary documentation:

- a. Report of the Committee on Energy on its ninth session (2014, expected accomplishment (c));
- b. Report of the Committee on Water Resources on its tenth session (2014, expected accomplishment (c)).

(ii) *Committee on Energy*

- a. Servicing the meetings of the tenth session of the Committee on Energy (2014, expected accomplishment (c));
- b. Parliamentary documentation:
 - i. Energy security and regional integration (2014, expected accomplishment (c));
 - ii. Potential for technology transfer and local manufacturing of renewable energy equipment in the Arab region (2014, expected accomplishment (c)).

(iii) *Committee on Water Resources*

- a. Servicing the meetings of the eleventh session of the Committee on Water Resources (2015, expected accomplishment (c));
- b. Parliamentary documentation:
 - i. Progress in implementing the MDG+ Initiative: looking beyond 2015 (2015, expected accomplishment (c));
 - ii. Progress in assessing the impact of climate change on water resources and socioeconomic vulnerability in the Arab region (2015, expected accomplishment (c)).

(iv) *Ad hoc expert groups*

Eight expert group meetings on:

- a. Greening the productive sector (2014, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Conference on Stakeholders Dialogue for the Sustainable Development Goals (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
- c. Job creation through sustainable energy for all (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
- d. Enhancing sustainable management of water, energy and land (2015, expected accomplishment (b));
- e. Assessing cooperation on shared water resources in the Arab region (2014, expected accomplishment (c));
- f. Good practice in food, water and energy security (2015, expected accomplishment (c));
- g. Impact of energy subsidies on economic growth and climate change mitigation measures (2014, expected accomplishment (d));
- h. Moving towards climate change adaptation in the Arab region (2015, expected accomplishment (d)).

(v) *Assistance to intergovernmental bodies and/or United Nations representatives/rapporteurs under their established mandates*

- a. Support to the high-level political forum replacing the Commission on Sustainable Development (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (b));

- b. Support to the Technical Scientific Advisory Committee of the Arab Ministerial Water Council (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (c));
- c. Support to the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment and its joint Committee on Environment and Development in the Arab Region (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (c));
- d. Support to the Arab Ministerial Council for Electricity and the Technical Committees on Electricity and Renewable Energy/Energy Efficiency (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (c));
- e. Support to the Arab Permanent Committee on Meteorology (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (d)).

(b) *Other substantive activities*

(i) *Recurrent publications*

ESCWA Water Development Report No. 6: The Water, Energy and Food Security Nexus (2015, expected accomplishment (b)).

(ii) *Non-recurrent publications*

- a. The Future We Want: Greening the Productive Sectors (2014, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Development Trends in the Energy Sector in the Arab Region (2014, expected accomplishment (b));
- c. Pathways Towards Sustainable Agricultural Production and Consumption in the Arab Region (2014, expected accomplishment (b));
- d. Cooperation on Shared Water Resources in the Arab Region (2014, expected accomplishment (c));
- e. Regional Cooperation for Energy Security (2014, expected accomplishment (c)).

(iii) *Technical material*

- a. Green jobs within green small and medium-sized enterprises: opportunities and challenges (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Innovative financing for green small and medium-sized enterprises (2014, expected accomplishment (a));
- c. A regional framework for sustainable development goals (2014, expected accomplishment (b));
- d. Access to water supply and sanitation in the Arab region: beyond 2015 (2015, expected accomplishment (b));
- e. Green technologies for water and energy efficiency (2015, expected accomplishment (c));
- f. Linking climate change adaptation to disaster risk reduction strategies (2015, expected accomplishment (d)).

(iv) *Other printed material*

- a. Brochures on:
 - i. Sustainable energy for all (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
 - ii. Water supply and sanitation: beyond 2015 (2014, expected accomplishment (b));
 - iii. Potential contribution of energy efficiency to energy security and climate change mitigation in the ESCWA region (2014, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. Promotional material for:
 - i. The World Environment Day (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (b));
 - ii. The World Water Day 2014: Water-Energy Nexus (2014, expected accomplishment (c));
 - iii. The World Water Day 2015: Water and Development (2015, expected accomplishment (b));
- c. Fact sheets on:
 - i. Energy efficiency policies in the Arab region (2015, expected accomplishment (c));
 - ii. Renewable energy technologies in the Arab region (2015, expected accomplishment (c)).

(v) *Contribution to activities of other United Nations agencies*

- a. Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its twenty-first and twenty-second sessions (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (d));
- b. UN-Water Task Force on Country Coordination (2014, expected accomplishment (c));
- c. UN-Water inter-agency coordination for the preparation of the World Water Development Report, and joint initiatives pursued through the Thematic Priority Areas on “Water and Climate Change” and “Transboundary Waters” (2015, expected accomplishment (c));
- d. Seventh World Water Forum (2015, expected accomplishment (b));
- e. Stockholm World Water Week on the “Water-Energy Nexus” (2014, expected accomplishment (c));
- f. Stockholm World Water Week on “Water and Development” (2015, expected accomplishment (b));
- g. United Nations coordination bodies on energy (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (c));
- h. Global and regional forums on energy (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (c)).

(c) *Technical cooperation (extrabudgetary)*

Field projects

- (i) Establishing a regional mechanism for improved monitoring and reporting on access to water supply and sanitation services in the Arab region: the MDG+ Initiative (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (b));

- (ii) Support to the Arab Integrated Water Resources Management Network (2014-2015, expected accomplishment (c));
- (iii) Regional initiative for the assessment of the impact of climate change on water resources and socioeconomic vulnerability in the Arab region (2014-2015, expected accomplishment (d));
- (iv) Assessment of the impact of climate change on water resources and socioeconomic development in the ESCWA region (2014-2015, expected accomplishment (d));
- (v) Building the capacity of Arab countries for climate change adaptation through Integrated Water Resources Management tools (2014-2015, expected accomplishment (d));
- (vi) Adaptation to climate change in the water sector in the MENA region (2014-2015, expected accomplishment (d));
- (vii) Promoting sustainable agricultural production and consumption in the Arab region (2014-2015, expected accomplishment (a));
- (viii) Sustainable development and food-secure Arab world: promoting the food-water-energy nexus approach as a knowledge and policy tool (2014-2015, expected accomplishment (c));
- (ix) Building capacity in developing appropriate green technologies to improve the livelihood of rural communities in the Arab region (Development Account) (2014-2015, expected accomplishment (c));
- (x) Regional initiative on energy efficiency in buildings and other sectors in the Arab region (2014-2015, expected accomplishment (b));
- (xi) Promoting energy efficiency investments for climate change mitigation and sustainable development (Development Account) (2014-2015, expected accomplishment (d));
- (xii) Promoting renewable energy investments for climate change mitigation and sustainable development (Development Account) (2014-2015, expected accomplishment (d));
- (xiii) Developing the capacity of ESCWA member countries to address the water-energy nexus for achieving sustainable development goals (Development Account) (2014-2015, expected accomplishment (d)).

SUBPROGRAMME 2

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Objective: To enhance the capacity of member countries to adopt social policies and institutional mechanisms that lead to an equitable and inclusive process of socioeconomic development, taking into consideration regional specificities.

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
(a) Strengthened capacity of member countries to develop a rights-based social policy that promotes social integration, social protection, the provision of adequate social services and employment generation	<p>(a)(i) Increased number of new policies, programmes and measures that aim at expanding social protection, improving the provision of social services and generating employment</p> <p><i>Performance measures</i></p> <p>2010-2011: 2 new policies/programmes/measures Estimate for 2012-2013: 4 new policies/programmes/measures Target for 2014-2015: 6 new policies/programmes/measures</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of policies and programmes that are formulated or enhanced to ensure the integration of key sociodemographic groups, including youth, older persons, persons with disabilities and migrants in national development processes</p> <p><i>Performance measures</i></p> <p>2010-2011: 11 policies/programmes Estimate for 2012-2013: 21 policies/programmes Target for 2014-2015: 24 policies/programmes</p>
(b) Enhanced capacity of member countries to adopt social development policies and programmes based on the participation of the civil society and other stakeholders, in public policy formulation, implementation and monitoring	<p>(b)(i) Increased number of instances in which Governments, civil society organizations and other stakeholders participate in developing, implementing and monitoring social development policies and programmes</p> <p><i>Performance measures</i></p> <p>2010-2011: 6 reported instances Estimate for 2012-2013: 10 reported instances Target for 2014-2015: 14 reported instances</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of committees and joint ventures between representatives of Governments, civil society organizations and other stakeholders entrusted with the formulation, implementation and monitoring of social policies and programmes</p>

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
	<i>Performance measures</i>
	2010-2011: 11 committees/joint ventures
	Estimate for 2012-2013: 14 committees/joint ventures
	Target for 2014-2015: 17 committees/joint ventures

STRATEGY

19.37 The responsibility for implementing subprogramme 2 lies with the Social Development Division. The subprogramme will build on the experience gained in previous bienniums and will continue to advocate equity, social justice, inclusion and participation as the guiding social development principles.

19.38 During the biennium 2014-2015, particular attention will be paid to promoting social development through a rights-based approach to social policy and protection; social integration; special focus on key socio-demographic groups, such as youth, older persons and migrants; employment generation; and participatory development.

19.39 Inclusive societies that successfully integrate all social groups into the national development process are better equipped to maintain social cohesion during times of crisis and to avoid socio-political upheaval. In this context, there is an urgent need to promote social integration, employment generation and civil society participation in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of public policies, involving three types of activities: the identification of citizens' priorities over alternative social development outcomes; the formulation and implementation of policies based on those priorities; and the monitoring of the impact of such policies on the lives of those affected.

19.40 Work under the subprogramme will seek to build the capacity of member countries to mainstream social equity concerns in their public policymaking and will assist them to implement internationally agreed plans of action and recommendations, including the Millennium Development Goals in the run-up to the 2015 target date for their implementation.

19.41 Both normative and technical cooperation activities will be carried out under the subprogramme. The former will include research into and analysis of social development issues, the preparation of substantive reports and the organization of expert group meetings, while the latter will include the provision of advisory services, the organization of capacity-development workshops and the launching of field projects, notably in the areas of youth development, social protection and civil society participation.

19.42 Partnerships will be further strengthened with other regional commissions, United Nations entities, international and regional organizations and civil society groups. In the process, the subprogramme will act as a regional platform for exchanging experiences, good practices and lessons learned in the field of social development, and for increased interaction between Western Asia and other regions.

EXTERNAL FACTORS

Subprogramme 2 will achieve its expected accomplishments provided that: (a) member countries remain committed to achieving the internationally agreed development goals and continue to support activities that promote comprehensive social development; (b) extrabudgetary financial resources are commensurate with planned activities; and (c) there is a minimum of political stability and a secure working environment.

OUTPUTS

During the biennium 2014-2015, the following outputs are expected to be delivered under subprogramme 2:

(a) *Servicing intergovernmental and expert bodies*

(i) *Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (twenty-eighth session)*

Parliamentary documentation: Report of the Committee on Social Development on its ninth session (2014, expected accomplishment (a)).

(ii) *Committee on Social Development*

- a. Servicing the meetings of the tenth session of the Committee on Social Development (2015, expected accomplishments (a) and (b));
- b. Parliamentary documentation:
 - i. Social protection for the informal sector (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
 - ii. Population and development issues (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
 - iii. Policy implications of partnership in the democratic process (2014, expected accomplishment (b)).

(iii) *Ad hoc expert groups*

Four expert group meetings on:

- a. A new Arab Decade for Persons with Disabilities and Plan of Action 2014-2023 (2014, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. The impact of population policies on human development in the Arab countries (2014, expected accomplishment (a));
- c. Labour market policies (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
- d. Participatory processes in Arab countries undergoing democratic transition (2015, expected accomplishment (b)).

(b) *Other substantive activities*

(i) *Recurrent publications*

- a. Integrated Social Policy Report IV: Integrated Policies for Inclusive Labour Markets (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Population and Development Report (No. 7): The Impact of Population Policies on Human Development in the Arab Countries (2015, expected accomplishment (a)).

(ii) *Non-recurrent publications*

- a. Participatory Processes in Arab Countries Undergoing Democratic Transition (2014, expected accomplishment (b));

- b. Inclusive Social Development in the Arab Region (2014, expected accomplishment (a)).

(iii) *Technical material*

- a. Policy briefs on:
 - i. Reviewing the outcome of the High-Level Dialogue on International Migration in the Arab region (2014, expected accomplishment (a));
 - ii. Population and development (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
 - iii. Participation and civic engagement (2014, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. The demographic profile of the Arab region (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
- c. Labour market country profiles (2014) (expected accomplishment (a));
- d. Social protection country profiles (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (a));
- e. Review of international good practice in population policies (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
- f. Labour market trends in the Arab region (2014, expected accomplishment (a));
- g. E-seminars/discussions on:
 - i. Participation, civic engagement and social cohesion (2014, expected accomplishment (b));
 - ii. Democratic transition and civil society organizations (2015, expected accomplishment (b)).

(iv) *Other printed material*

- a. Social development bulletins on:
 - i. United Nations development agenda beyond 2015 (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
 - ii. Participation in democratic transition (2015, expected accomplishment (b));
 - iii. Social policy issues (2014, expected accomplishment (a));
 - iv. Integrating demographic changes into development planning (2014, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Pamphlets/brochures on:
 - i. Theme of the forty-eighth session of the Commission on Population and Development (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
 - ii. Priority theme of the fifty-second session of the Commission for Social Development (2014, expected accomplishment (a));
- c. National demographic profiles of ESCWA member countries (2015, expected accomplishment (a));

- d. Information kit on participatory development programmes: conditions and mechanisms (2015, expected accomplishment (b)).

(v) *Contribution to joint outputs*

Subprogramme 3 publication, Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the Arab Region (chapters on social policies) (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (a)).

(vi) *Events*

International Day of Persons with Disabilities (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (a)).

(c) *Technical cooperation (extrabudgetary)*

(i) *Advisory services*

Providing guidance on participatory development and local development mechanisms and instruments (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (b)).

(ii) *Training courses, seminars and workshops*

Workshops on:

- a. Expanding social protection to the informal sector (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Capacity-building for public-civic partnership in democratic governance (2015, expected accomplishment (b)).

(iii) *Field projects*

- a. Regional initiative on youth employment – Phase II (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Operationalizing ESCWA participatory approach in public policy processes in member countries (2014, expected accomplishment (b));
- c. Strengthening national capacities for integrated sustainable and inclusive population and development policies in the Arab region (Development Account) (2014-2015, expected accomplishment (a)).

SUBPROGRAMME 3

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION

Objective: To achieve a decent standard of living through sustained economic development and integration.

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
(a) Strengthened capacity of member countries to develop inclusive and equitable socioeconomic conditions through pro-poor growth policies focused on employment generation and inclusive and equitable financial policies	<p>(a)(i) Increased number of member countries adopting an inclusive and fair macroeconomic framework</p> <p><i>Performance measures</i></p> <p>2010-2011: 2 member countries Estimate for 2012-2013: 4 member countries Target for 2014-2015: 6 member countries</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of policies and measures adopted by member countries to implement the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development</p> <p><i>Performance measures</i></p> <p>2010-2011: 18 policies/measures Estimate for 2012-2013: 22 policies/measures Target for 2014-2015: 26 policies/measures</p>
(b) Enhanced capacity of member countries to develop knowledge-based economies with a view to achieving sustainable economic growth and poverty alleviation through effective macroeconomics and promoting economic diversification and competitiveness for decent job creation	<p>(b) Increased number of member countries that request and receive ESCWA support in developing national strategies for knowledge-based economies and competitiveness</p> <p><i>Performance measures</i></p> <p>2010-2011: 1 member country Estimate for 2012-2013: 3 member countries Target for 2014-2015: 4 member countries</p>
(c) Enhanced capacity of member countries to coordinate their social and economic policies, and ensure the implementation of regional economic agreements to realize the potential for intraregional integration	<p>(c)(i) Increased number of agreements between member countries on macroeconomic policy coordination</p> <p><i>Performance measures</i></p> <p>2010-2011: 0 member country participating in the platform for macroeconomic policies Estimate for 2012-2013: 2 member countries participating in the platform for macroeconomic policies Target for 2014-2015: 3 member countries participating in the platform for macroeconomic policies</p>

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
	(ii) Increased number of member countries implementing regional agreements
	<i>Performance measures</i>
	2010-2011: 0 member country
	Estimate for 2012-2013: 2 member countries
	Target for 2014-2015: 4 member countries
(d) Enhanced regional integration of member countries by developing and harmonizing the physical and legislative regional infrastructure	(d) Increased number of countries adopting transport agreements and/or establishing national transport and trade committees
	<i>Performance measures</i>
	2010-2011: 32 accessions
	Estimate for 2012-2013: 35 accessions
	Target for 2014-2015: 37 accessions
(e) Enhanced capacity of public institutions to create an enabling environment for development through nationally led and owned good governance practices for the implementation of enhanced macroeconomic management with the full engagement of civil society organizations and the private sector	(e) Increased number of member countries requesting and receiving ESCWA support in governance reforms in line with macroeconomic changes
	<i>Performance measures</i>
	2010-2011: 4 member countries
	Estimate for 2012-2013: 7 member countries
	Target for 2014-2015: 9 member countries

STRATEGY

19.43 The responsibility for implementing subprogramme 3 lies with the Economic Development and Globalization Division. The Millennium Development Goals, the Revised Damascus Declaration on Responding to the International Financial Crisis in the ESCWA Region, the Monterrey Consensus, the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development, the Doha Development Agenda, the Integrated Transport System in the Arab Mashreq, and the relevant General Assembly and ESCWA resolutions provide the legislative authority for the subprogramme.

19.44 During the biennium 2014-2015, particular attention will be paid to promoting economic development by taking an inclusive and equitable approach to fostering economic development, and developing sound development policies and strategies taking the region's specific challenges into account; promoting regional integration to benefit all people in the region; implementing innovative approaches to financing for development; and working towards enhancing economic diversification to increase resilience to shocks.

19.45 Inclusive economic growth and more equitable distribution of income, being at the core of demands by the region's population, will be the main guiding principles of the subprogramme in 2014-2015. In this context, there is an urgent need to promote and support the implementation of effective regional economic development policies and strategies to accelerate the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, such as the Millennium Development Goals, by 2015. Efforts to promote regional integration include integrated transport systems, intraregional and international trade, implementation and monitoring of the Monterrey Consensus and follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development, taking

into consideration the consequences of the global economic and financial crisis. To achieve the objectives, various types of activities will be used: development and use of economic analysis and forecasting tools such as macroeconomic models, which in turn enable sound policy recommendations based on short-term and long-term projections; sound macroeconomic and microeconomic research leading to reference and flagship publications, such as the proposed Arab economic outlook report; and technical assistance and capacity-building targeting individual needs of member countries, such as monitoring policy impact on the economic development.

19.46 The main objective and the five major expected accomplishments of the subprogramme will be achieved by developing and delivering innovative research, multidisciplinary integrated policy advice, capacity-building and support to the implementation, in addition to monitoring and evaluation.

19.47 Work under the subprogramme will be conducted in close cooperation with all relevant stakeholders in member countries, such as Governments, development partners (including international financial institutions), civil society organizations and the private sector. Existing and emerging partnerships with other regional commissions, United Nations entities, international and regional organizations and civil society groups will be further strengthened.

EXTERNAL FACTORS

Subprogramme 3 will achieve its expected accomplishments provided that: (a) member countries remain committed to increasing subregional and regional cooperation and integration; (b) there are no significant shortfalls in extrabudgetary funding; (c) the political situation in the region allows the implementation of the work plan; and (d) up-to-date and reliable statistics are made available.

OUTPUTS

During the biennium 2014-2015, the following outputs are expected to be delivered under subprogramme 3:

(a) *Servicing intergovernmental and expert bodies*

(i) *Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (twenty-eighth session)*

Parliamentary documentation:

- a. Reports of the Technical Committee on Liberalization of Foreign Trade, Economic Globalization and Financing for Development on its eighth and ninth sessions (2014, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Reports of the Committee on Transport on its fourteenth and fifteenth sessions (2014, expected accomplishment (d)).

(ii) *Committee on Transport*

- a. Servicing the meetings of the fifteenth and sixteenth sessions of the Committee on Transport (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (d));
- b. Parliamentary documentation:
 - i. Implementation of the Agreement on International Railways in the Arab Mashreq (2014, expected accomplishment (d));
 - ii. Implementation of the Agreement on International Roads in the Arab Mashreq (2014, expected accomplishment (d));
 - iii. Implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation of Maritime Transport in the Arab Mashreq (2015, expected accomplishment (d));

- iv. Implementation of the Action Plan for the United Nations Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020 in the Arab region (2015, expected accomplishment (d));
 - v. National Transport and Trade Facilitation Committees in the Arab Region (2015, expected accomplishment (d)).
- (iii) *Technical Committee on Liberalization of Foreign Trade, Economic Globalization and Financing for Development*
 - a. Servicing the meetings of the ninth and tenth sessions of the Committee on Trade and Finance (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishments (a) and (c));
 - b. Parliamentary documentation:
 - i. Financing for development (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
 - ii. Trade policy (2014, expected accomplishments (a) and (c)).
- (iv) *Ad hoc expert groups*

Thirteen expert group meetings on:

 - a. Social value added tax: a suitable model? (2014, expected accomplishment (a));
 - b. Redesigning the Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the Arab Region 2013-2014 (2014, expected accomplishment (a));
 - c. High priority issues of financing for development (2014, expected accomplishment (a));
 - d. Model for youth employment (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
 - e. Implementation of policy recommendations of the Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the Arab Region 2013-2014 (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
 - f. Governance trends and measurement (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (e));
 - g. Transport and trade facilitation (2014, expected accomplishment (c));
 - h. Macroeconomic policy convergence and regional integration (2014, expected accomplishment (c));
 - i. Investment policy in the Arab region (2015, expected accomplishment (c));
 - j. Development policy: emerging trends and developments (2015, expected accomplishment (a)).
- (b) *Other substantive activities*
 - (i) *Recurrent publications*
 - a. Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the Arab region 2013-2014 (2014, expected accomplishment (a));
 - b. Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the Arab region 2014-2015 (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
 - c. Arab Development Outlook (2014, expected accomplishment (a));
 - d. Development Finance in the Arab Region (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
 - e. Economic Integration in the Arab Region (2015, expected accomplishment (c)).

(ii) *Non-recurrent publications*

Social Value Added Tax: A Suitable Model? (2014, expected accomplishment (a)).

(iii) *Technical material*

Working papers on:

- a. Technical and non-tariff barriers to trade (2014, expected accomplishment (c));
- b. Macroeconomic policy convergence and regional integration (2014, expected accomplishment (c));
- c. Innovative and viable macroeconomic governance policies for inclusive development in the Arab region (2014, expected accomplishment (e));
- d. Investment policy in the Arab region (2015, expected accomplishment (c));
- e. Development policy (series) (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (c));
- f. Measuring governance development (2014, expected accomplishment (e)).

(iv) *Contribution to joint outputs*

- a. Subprogramme 1, paper on innovative financing for green small and medium-sized enterprises (2014, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Subprogramme 1, input to the expert group meeting on the impact of energy subsidies on economic growth and climate change mitigation measures (2014, expected accomplishment (a));
- c. Subprogramme 1, report on progress in assessing the impact of climate change on water resources and socioeconomic vulnerability in the Arab region (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
- d. Subprogramme 4, technical material on measuring information and communications technology contribution to economic development (2014, expected accomplishment (b));
- e. Subprogramme 4 non-recurrent publication, Transition to a Knowledge-Based Economy in the Arab Region (2015, expected accomplishment (b)).

(v) *Contribution to outputs of other intergovernmental bodies*

Contribution to the annual statistical report of OECD on Aid for Trade (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (d)).

(vi) *Events*

- a. Launching the Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the Arab Region 2013-2014 (2014, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Launching the Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the Arab Region 2014-2015 (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
- c. Launching the Arab Development Outlook (2015, expected accomplishment (a)).

(c) *Technical cooperation (extrabudgetary)*

(i) *Advisory services*

- a. Foreign direct investment, bilateral investment treaties and remittances: reforming the regulatory framework for inclusive finance (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Poverty and human development measurement (2014-2015, expected accomplishment (a));
- c. Aid effectiveness (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (a));
- d. Economic governance, including transparency and disclosure, ownership, and transition of State-owned enterprises (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (e)).

(ii) *Training courses, seminars and workshops*

- a. Workshops on:
 - i. Tax systems in ESCWA member countries: pro-poor value added tax (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
 - ii. National strategies for a knowledge-based economy and competitiveness (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. Training course on macroeconomic policy convergence and regional integration (2014, expected accomplishment (e));
- c. Training workshops on economic governance, including transparency and disclosure, ownership, and transition of State-owned enterprises (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (e));
- d. Training workshops on poverty and human development measurement (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (a)).

(iii) *Field projects*

- a. Strengthening capacity of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to facilitate legitimate border crossing, regional cooperation and integration (Development Account) (2014, expected accomplishment (d));
- b. Capacity-building in ESCWA member countries negotiating bilateral investment agreements (Development Account) (2014-2015, expected accomplishment (a));
- c. Strengthening capacities to utilize workers' remittances in financing for development (Development Account) (2014-2015, expected accomplishment (a));
- d. Implementation of a country-specific pilot on the reform of macroeconomic policies for inclusive development (2014-2015, expected accomplishments (b) and (c)).

SUBPROGRAMME 4

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY
FOR REGIONAL INTEGRATION

Objective: To accelerate bridging the digital divide and building, by member countries, an inclusive, people-centred and development-oriented information society and knowledge-based economy for sustainable economic growth and poverty alleviation.

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced capacity of member countries to develop and benefit from knowledge-based economies for sustainable economic growth and poverty alleviation	<p>(a)(i) Increased number of member countries implementing information and communications technology (ICT) policies, strategies and plans of action that emphasize the development of knowledge-based economies</p> <p><i>Performance measures</i> 2010-2011: 4 member countries Estimate for 2012-2013: 8 member countries Target for 2014-2015: 11 member countries</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of member countries showing progress in the implementation of internationally agreed indicators on knowledge-based economy</p> <p><i>Performance measures</i> 2010-2011: 3 member countries Estimate for 2012-2013: 5 member countries Target for 2014-2015: 7 member countries</p> <p>(iii) Increased number of partnerships and technology-based projects and programmes launched and implemented in the region by the ESCWA Technology Centre</p> <p><i>Performance measures</i> 2010-2011: 1 partnership/project Estimate for 2012-2013: 15 partnerships/projects Target for 2014-2015: 30 partnerships/projects</p> <p>(b)(i) Increased number of regional initiatives for the development of information and knowledge societies through partnerships, research development and innovation, and ICT applications</p> <p><i>Performance measures</i> 2010-2011: 4 regional initiatives Estimate for 2012-2013: 6 regional initiatives Target for 2014-2015: 8 regional initiatives</p>
(b) Enhanced competitiveness of the ICT sector in the region on the production and service delivery levels with special focus on partnerships, research, development and innovation	

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
(c) Enhanced capacity of member countries to ensure the coordination of their socioeconomic policies, fully achieve the potential for intraregional integration and build a harmonized policy framework for Internet governance and the legislation required	<p>(ii) Increased number of member countries using the Core ICT Indicators developed by the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development to measure the information society</p> <p><i>Performance measures</i></p> <p>2010-2011: 5 member countries Estimate for 2012-2013: 8 member countries Target for 2014-2015: 10 member countries</p> <p>(c)(i) Increased number of member countries joining regional or global initiatives or frameworks related to Internet governance and/or cybersafety</p> <p><i>Performance measures</i></p> <p>2010-2011: 3 member countries Estimate for 2012-2013: 5 member countries Target for 2014-2015: 7 member countries</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of policymaking and legislative initiatives encouraging the use of cyberspace and e-commerce or e-services in the Arab region</p> <p><i>Performance measures</i></p> <p>2010-2011: 2 initiatives Estimate for 2012-2013: 4 initiatives Target for 2014-2015: 6 initiatives</p>

STRATEGY

19.48 The responsibility for implementing subprogramme 4 lies with the Information and Communication Technology Division. Regional and global changes are taking place at the economic, social, cultural and political levels, with information and knowledge playing a major role in the move towards the information and knowledge society. The accelerating development in knowledge during the past decades has modified the principles of economic growth with the move towards a knowledge-based economy affecting all sectors of the economy. Countries capacity to adapt to changes in technology and knowledge varies significantly. With continued monitoring of activities pertaining to the World Summit on the Information Society Geneva Plan of Action and Tunis Agenda for the Information Society and the efforts made to implement the ESCWA Regional Plan of Action for Building the Information Society, in harmonization with the Arab Information and Communications Technology Strategy of the League of Arab States, work under the subprogramme will strive to adapt the Summit outcomes to better serve the region and fine-tune plans of action to build an inclusive, people-centred information society based on productive national ICT sectors.

19.49 To meet the needs of member countries, work under the subprogramme will consist of performing analytical studies, convening meetings and providing advisory services to support that endeavour, acting as a catalyst for change in policymaking in member countries and promoting the adoption of a more comprehensive set of ICT measurements and indicators that will help strategic decision-making to identify priority areas of policy action and measure the impact of ICT on socioeconomic development. It will also

involve assessing and revising plans of action based on feedback from member countries, monitoring progress, evaluating impacts and benchmarking national development with other countries based on international indices, with a view to improving the productivity and competitiveness of the ICT sector in the region towards building a knowledge-based economy.

19.50 To enhance national capacity, in particular in terms of human resources development, and to take advantage of the digital opportunities pertaining to socioeconomic development in the region, field projects will incorporate a social dimension through the active involvement of local communities, with a focus on employment of young people and the empowerment of women, so as to build a people-centred and development-oriented information and knowledge society.

19.51 Work under the subprogramme will be focused on promoting an enabling environment and harnessing the development of thematic ICT applications, including e-services, e-government, digital content in Arabic and social media. In addition, emphasis will be laid on leveraging ICT for the development of knowledge-based economies in the region.

19.52 The ESCWA Technology Centre will assist member countries and public and private organizations to acquire the tools and capabilities necessary to spark socioeconomic development. This will permit the attainment of technological parity with other countries and regions and result in member countries' economies relying more on scientific and technological knowledge by strengthening their capacity to develop and manage national innovation systems; to develop, transfer, adapt and apply technology; to improve the terms of technology transfer; and to identify and promote the development and transfer of technologies relevant to the region. In doing so, the Centre will use the resources and know-how available in other ESCWA divisions and centres and provide for large-scale networking efforts.

19.53 Work under the subprogramme will enhance regional collaboration and partnerships in activities that will contribute to efforts aimed at harnessing research and development in science and technology, particularly ICT, for socioeconomic development. In the same context, work will continue with regional and global partners to enhance integrating infrastructure, regional backbones and broadband strategies for more affordable technology access throughout the region.

EXTERNAL FACTORS

Subprogramme 4 will achieve its expected accomplishments provided that: (a) the political situation in the region is conducive to socioeconomic development; (b) the security status of the operating environment does not deteriorate; (c) member countries have the capacity and commitment to reorient their economic and social structures and policies; (d) national institutions are willing to provide relevant and timely information; and (e) adequate extrabudgetary resources are obtained to support additional activities as needed.

OUTPUTS

During the biennium 2014-2015, the following outputs are expected to be delivered under subprogramme 4:

(a) *Servicing intergovernmental and expert bodies*

(i) *Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (twenty-eighth session)*

Parliamentary documentation:

- a. Report on the ESCWA Technology Center (2014, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. Progress achieved in implementing the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society (2014, expected accomplishment (b)).

(ii) *Ad hoc expert groups*

Four expert group meetings on:

- a. Seventh meeting of the Consultative Committee on Scientific and Technological Development and Technological Innovation (2014, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. Regional Conference on the Overall Review of the Implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society Outcomes (WSIS+10) and Beyond (2015, expected accomplishment (b));
- c. Implementation of the Arab Regional Roadmap for Internet Governance (2015, expected accomplishment (c));
- d. Innovation indicators: measuring the engine of knowledge-based economies (2015, expected accomplishment (a)).

(iii) *Assistance to intergovernmental bodies and/or United Nations representatives/rapporteurs under their established mandates*

Assistance to the League of Arab States and its organizations on ICT policies and strategies, Internet governance, Arabic domain names, digital Arabic content, and cyberlegislation (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (b)).

(b) *Other substantive activities*

(i) *Recurrent publications*

- a. Review of Information and Communication Technology for Development in the Arab Region, Issues 21 and 22 (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. Profile of the Information Society in the Arab Region 2015 (2015, expected accomplishment (b)).

(ii) *Non-recurrent publications*

- a. Transition to a Knowledge-Based Economy in the Arab Region (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Policy Recommendations on Cybercrime and Cybersecurity in the Arab Region (2014, expected accomplishment (c)).

(iii) *Technical material*

- a. Establishment of a web page on innovation and knowledge-based economy (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishments (a) and (c));
- b. Establishment of a web page on exchanging information on the digital Arabic content (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishments (b) and (c));
- c. Measurement of information and communication technology contribution to economic development (2014, expected accomplishment (a));
- d. Implementation of the Arab Regional Roadmap for Internet Governance (2014, expected accomplishment (b));
- e. Newsletter on the knowledge society (4 issues) (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (b));
- f. Knowledge society thematic review: success stories in the Arab region (2015, expected accomplishment (b)).

(iv) *Other printed material*

- a. Brochure on the Information and Communication Technology Division at ESCWA (2014, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. Leaflet on the Digital Arabic Content Initiative (2014, expected accomplishment (b));
- c. Leaflet on Internet governance (2014, expected accomplishment (b));
- d. Leaflet and poster on the Academy of ICT Essentials for Government Leaders in the Arab region (2014, expected accomplishment (b)).

(v) *Contribution to joint outputs*

- a. Subprogramme 3 working papers, selected issues (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Subprogramme 6 publication, Women and the Knowledge Society in the Arab Region (2015, expected accomplishment (c)).

(c) *Technical cooperation (extrabudgetary)*

(i) *Training courses, seminars and workshops*

Innovation for knowledge-based economies (2014, expected accomplishment (a)).

(ii) *Field projects*

- a. Support to the ESCWA Technology Centre (in-kind contribution) (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Academy of ICT Essentials for Government Leaders in the Arab Region (continued from 2012-2013) (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (b)).

SUBPROGRAMME 5

STATISTICS FOR EVIDENCE-BASED POLICYMAKING

Objective: To enhance the regional statistical system through statistical capacity development of member countries, in order to produce comparable, reliable, impartial and relevant national data for evidence-based policymaking and research.

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
(a) Improved provision of statistical data about member countries through collection and dissemination of official statistics and indicators	<p>(a)(i) Increased number of member countries that provide at least 60 per cent of core socioeconomic indicators</p> <p><i>Performance measures</i></p> <p>2010-2011: 10 member countries Estimate for 2012-2013: 12 member countries Target for 2014-2015: 14 member countries</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of database queries to online ESCWA statistical databases</p> <p><i>Performance measures</i></p> <p>2010-2011: 200 queries Estimate for 2012-2013: 300 queries Target for 2014-2015: 450 queries</p>
(b) Improved capacity of member countries for official statistics in line with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics	<p>(b) Increased number of member countries adopting new or revised international statistical standards, including the System of National Accounts and foundational socioeconomic classifications, in line with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics</p> <p><i>Performance measures</i></p> <p>2010-2011: 10 member countries Estimate for 2012-2013: 12 member countries Target for 2014-2015: 14 member countries</p>
(c) Strengthened regional statistical system in support of regional integration, with an active coordination among major players, including regional and international organizations, and a more active participation by member countries	<p>(c)(i) Increased number of joint statistical capacity-building activities that are coordinated with regional partners</p> <p><i>Performance measures</i></p> <p>2010-2011: 5 activities Estimate for 2012-2013: 8 activities Target for 2014-2015: 12 activities</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of tangible outputs of statistical coordination (harmonized databases, joint questionnaires, joint data products) produced in the region</p>

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
	<i>Performance measures</i>
	2010-2011: 2 outputs
	Estimate for 2012-2013: 4 outputs
	Target for 2014-2015: 8 outputs

STRATEGY

19.54 The responsibility for implementing subprogramme 5 lies with the Statistics Division. There is a continued need to align the production and dissemination of statistics in the Arab region with emerging social changes caused by the latest developments in the region, by improving the relevance and comparability of statistics at the regional level in social, economic and cross-cutting issues. Addressing those challenges will strengthen the role of statistics in evidence-based policymaking and in monitoring and evaluating the impact of development policies.

19.55 ESCWA will seek partnerships with organizations within and outside the United Nations that are active in statistical work in the region. It will coordinate statistical capacity development so as to achieve higher efficiency and will share data and harmonize questionnaires so as to obtain more consistent data, decrease the reporting burden and better use the resources available for data work in each organization. To this end, ESCWA will primarily use the Regional Coordination Mechanism and, in particular, the Task Force on Statistical Coordination. It will also strengthen its internal coordination mechanism for statistical activities.

19.56 During the biennium 2014-2015, work under the subprogramme will concentrate on three main roles: collection and dissemination of data, statistical capacity development and coordination of statistical activities with regional and international players in official statistics active in the region.

19.57 The priority areas for data collection, processing and dissemination include foundational demographic, social, economic and sectoral statistics that form the basis of official statistics. Data collection will focus on gathering data directly from member countries and on sharing them with other partners active in statistical work in the region. Due attention will be paid to communicating statistics to the media and the public.

19.58 Statistics about the region can be improved only when the methodological and quality issues are tackled at the source: national statistical offices and other national producers of official statistics. As statistical capacity development at the national level is at the core of efforts for better coverage, relevance, timeliness and comparability of data, efforts in this regard will focus on identifying gaps and discrepancies and undertaking capacity-development programmes. Work under the subprogramme will advocate the importance of full adherence to the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, especially the impartiality of official statistics and their availability to the public; the use of appropriate methods and procedures for the collection, processing, storage and presentation of statistical data; and the presentation of information on sources and methods according to internationally agreed standards.

19.59 ESCWA will take an active role in ensuring that major players in official statistics coordinate their activities in the region. The quality of statistical data, particularly in terms of consistency, timeliness and international comparability, is of primary concern to all producers and users of statistics. In this regard, it is important to ensure that reporting burdens on member countries are minimized and that data are shared among international organizations to the extent possible. To this end, ESCWA will coordinate statistics among national and international organizations active in the region to achieve those objectives, while respecting the needs and specifics of each organization.

19.60 To accomplish this strategy, efforts under the subprogramme will concentrate on acting as a centre of excellence and a forum to exchange views on statistical issues for member countries; providing training at the national, subregional and regional levels; ensuring close and/or direct cooperation and coordination with professional staff in national statistical offices, on data quality assurance and the implementation of international classifications and recommendations; responding to requests for technical assistance from member countries; assisting in exchange of expertise between member countries; and building trust with national-level counterparts.

EXTERNAL FACTORS

Subprogramme 5 will achieve its expected accomplishments provided that: (a) there are no significant shortfalls in regular and extrabudgetary resources for statistical capacity-building; (b) the regional and international organizations active in official statistics in the region willingly cooperate with ESCWA; (c) the ESCWA Statistical Committee maintains its steering role in setting priorities and providing a strategic direction; and (d) there is sufficient political stability and a secure working environment to facilitate cooperation among member countries and enable the effective implementation of ESCWA technical cooperation programme.

OUTPUTS

During the biennium 2014-2015, the following outputs are expected to be delivered under subprogramme 5:

(a) *Servicing intergovernmental and expert bodies*

(i) *Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (twenty-eighth session)*

Parliamentary documentation: Report of the Statistical Committee on its eleventh session (2014, expected accomplishments (a) and (b)).

(ii) *Statistical Committee*

- a. Servicing the meetings of the eleventh session of the Statistical Committee (2014, expected accomplishments (a), (b) and (c));
- b. Servicing the meetings of the Bureau of the Statistical Committee (2015, expected accomplishments (a) and (b));
- c. Parliamentary documentation: Report on regional implications of global events (2014, expected accomplishments (a), (b) and (c)).

(iii) *Ad hoc expert groups*

Seven expert group meetings on:

- a. National accounts and economic statistics (2014, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. Trade statistics for regional integration (2015, expected accomplishment (b));
- c. Price statistics for regional integration (2015, expected accomplishment (b));
- d. Vital statistics and population registers (2015, expected accomplishment (b));
- e. Measuring multi-dimensional poverty using household survey microdata (2014, expected accomplishment (b));

- f. Gender statistics (2014, expected accomplishment (b));
 - g. Meeting of the Working Group of the Heads of National Statistical Offices in the Arab region (2014-2015, expected accomplishment (c)).
- (iv) *Servicing inter-agency meetings*
- a. Meetings of the Committee on Coordination of Statistical Activities (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (c));
 - b. Meetings of the Task Force on Statistical Coordination of the Regional Coordination Mechanism (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (c)).
- (b) *Other substantive activities*
- (i) *Recurrent publications*
- a. Bulletin of Industrial Statistics for the Arab Region (2014, expected accomplishment (a));
 - b. E-Bulletin on National Accounts of the Arab Region (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
 - c. Arab Society: Compendium of Demographic and Social Indicators (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
 - d. Statistical Abstract of the Arab Region (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
 - e. E-Bulletin on External Trade Statistics of the Arab Region (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
 - f. Gender in Figures in the Arab Region 2013: E-Bulletin (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
 - g. Compendium of Environment Statistics in the Arab Region 2014-2015 (2015, expected accomplishment (a)).
- (ii) *Technical material*
- a. E-Glossary of statistical terms (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (b));
 - b. Annual updates of data and metadata on national accounts, economic statistics, population and vital statistics, social statistics and indicators, energy and environment statistics, gender statistics and societal development for the ESCWA Statistical Information System (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (c));
 - c. Methodological issues in economic statistics (2015, expected accomplishment (b));
 - d. Methodology of demographic and health statistics (2015, expected accomplishment (b)).
- (iii) *Other printed material*
- a. Statistics Newsletter (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (c));
 - b. Country statistical profiles (2015, expected accomplishment (c)).

(iv) *Contribution to joint outputs*

- a. Subprogramme 3 publication, Arab Development Outlook (statistical expertise and economic statistics data) (2015, expected accomplishment (c));
- b. Subprogramme 3 publication, Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the Arab Region (statistical expertise and economic statistics data) (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (c));
- c. Providing publications and activities of other subprogrammes with expertise in social statistics and indicators, energy and environment statistics and sustainable development indicators, and gender statistics and gender-sensitive indicators (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (c)).

(c) *Technical cooperation (extrabudgetary)*

(i) *Advisory services*

Providing support in: improving the production, analysis and dissemination of social and demographic, economic, and environmental statistics; adopting new or revised international statistical standards (System of National Accounts, etc.) and related foundational classifications; and improving national institutional frameworks for official statistics (2014-2015, expected accomplishment (b)).

(ii) *Field projects*

- a. Strengthening the statistical capacity of ESCWA member countries in short-term economic statistics for evidence-based decision-making (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Strengthening the statistical capacity of ESCWA member countries in energy statistics and energy balance (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (a));
- c. Promoting the use of statistical information in support of achieving internationally agreed development goals in the Arab region (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (b));
- d. International Comparison Programme (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishments (a) and (c));
- e. Improving census taking in the Arab region (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishments (a) and (b));
- f. Implementation of the Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (b));
- g. Strengthening the statistical capacity of ESCWA member countries in producing and disseminating short-term economic indicators for sustainable growth (Development Account) (2014-2015, expected accomplishment (a)).

SUBPROGRAMME 6

ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

Objective: To reduce gender imbalances, encourage exchange of lessons learned among member countries and contribute to increased respect for the rights of women in line with international conventions and conferences.

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced capacity of member countries to adopt gender-sensitive policies, legislation and budgets in order to attain equal rights of women	(a)(i) Increased number of strategies, policies and programmes for the advancement of women, designed by national machineries for women, are adopted and implemented at the national level <i>Performance measures</i> 2010-2011: 16 initiatives Estimate for 2012-2013: 20 initiatives Target for 2014-2015: 26 initiatives
	(ii) Increased number of national machineries for women showing improved reporting on periodical reports submitted to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women <i>Performance measures</i> 2010-2011: 0 reports Estimate for 2012-2013: 3 reports Target for 2014-2015: 6 reports
(b) Enhanced capacity of member countries to combat gender-based violence through enactment of legislation and development of national action plans	(b)(i) Increased number of national strategies to combat gender-based violence <i>Performance measures</i> 2010-2011: 0 strategy Estimate for 2012-2013: 0 strategy Target for 2014-2015: 3 strategies
	(ii) Increased number of legislations enacted to protect women from gender-based violence <i>Performance measures</i> 2010-2011: 1 legislation Estimate for 2012-2013: 2 legislations Target for 2014-2015: 5 legislations
(c) Enhanced capacity of member countries to adopt and implement participatory governance and national development policies, based on the equal participation of individuals, men and women, with a particular focus on enhancing the position of women in democratic decision-making processes	(c)(i) Increased number of national action plans adopting a participatory approach, with special attention to the participation of women <i>Performance measures</i> 2010-2011: 0 national action plan Estimate for 2012-2013: 0 national action plan Target for 2014-2015: 4 national action plans

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
	(ii) Increased number of civil society organizations dealing with the advancement of women that participate in public policy formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation processes <i>Performance measures</i> 2010-2011: 0 civil society organization Estimate for 2012-2013: 0 civil society organization Target for 2014-2015: 5 civil society organizations

STRATEGY

19.61 The responsibility for implementing subprogramme 6 lies with the ESCWA Centre for Women. The progress accomplished by member countries towards the advancement of women notwithstanding, the economic participation of women and their representation at the economic and political decision-making levels continue to be lower than in other regions. Combating violence against women remains a serious challenge in the region, especially in conflict-stricken areas. Moreover, current popular movements represent a risk, as they may result in the reversal of acquired gains in women's rights. There is therefore a need to foster greater participation of civil society, especially young people and women, in public policy formulation and active dialogue with Governments.

19.62 Building on the experience gained in past bienniums, work under the subprogramme will consist of stepping up efforts to enhance the institutional capacity of national machineries for the advancement of women and other stakeholders, such as members of parliament, the judiciary, the media and civil society organizations, through regular dissemination of new knowledge on gender issues, the provision of advocacy tools and research methodologies and the development of in-house training, knowledge and skills. The subprogramme will also provide forums in which national machineries in the Arab region can actively share with national machineries in other regions knowledge and experiences of gender mainstreaming and implementation of international instruments pertaining to women.

19.63 Work under the subprogramme will focus on building the capacity of member countries and other stakeholders to combat gender-based violence through the enactment of special laws to protect women from violence and end impunity for this crime. In line with this endeavour, due attention will be paid to national machineries for the advancement of women in conflict-stricken countries to address the particular needs of women living in those areas.

19.64 Work will also focus on ensuring that men and women are actively engaged in policy dialogue with Governments. In this context, emphasis will be laid on building the capacity of civil society organizations in public policy formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation processes through the organization of capacity-building workshops and dissemination of normative and analytical work. The subprogramme will act as a regional forum for joint governmental and non-governmental discussions on gender issues.

19.65 The subprogramme has been active in fostering relationships between Government bodies dealing with the empowerment and advancement of women and civil society organizations by holding meetings to analyse and discuss the situation of women at the regional level. Work will continue closely with other United Nations entities and regional organizations, including the UN-Women, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Development Programme Subregional Resource Facility for Arab States, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the International Labour Organization,

the League of Arab States, the Arab Women Organization and the Center for Arab Women Training and Research, in order to consolidate and enhance the impact of development support on the advancement of women in the region.

EXTERNAL FACTORS

Subprogramme 6 will achieve its expected accomplishments provided that: (a) there is a political will to enhance the role of national machineries for the advancement of women and to strengthen dialogue with civil society; (b) member countries take measures to align existing laws, regulations and practice with their commitments to international conventions and outcomes of international conferences on gender equality and advancement of women ; (c) the political situation in the region does not further deteriorate; and (d) current political changes in the region do not reverse acquired gains in the advancement of women leading to a deepened inequality gap.

OUTPUTS

During the biennium 2014-2015, the following outputs are expected to be delivered under subprogramme 6:

(a) *Servicing intergovernmental and expert bodies*

(i) *Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (twenty-eighth session)*

Parliamentary documentation: Report of the Committee on Women on its sixth session (2014, expected accomplishment (a)).

(ii) *Committee on Women*

- a. Servicing the meetings of the seventh session of the Committee on Women (6 meetings) (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Parliamentary documentation:
 - i. Report on progress achieved in implementing the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in the Arab region: Beijing+20 (2015, expected accomplishments (a) and (b));
 - ii. Report on thematic key development issues concerning the advancement of women in the Arab region (2015, expected accomplishments (a) and (b)).

(iii) *Ad hoc expert groups*

Four expert group meetings on:

- a. Early marriage in the Arab region (2014, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. National laws and international conventions in the Arab region (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
- c. Progress achieved in implementing the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in the Arab region: Beijing+20 (2015, expected accomplishment (b));
- d. Social and economic situation of women in conflict-stricken areas in the Arab region (2015, expected accomplishment (b)).

(b) *Other substantive activities*

(i) *Recurrent publications*

- a. Status of Arab Women Report: National Laws and International Conventions (2015, expected accomplishment (a)) ;
- b. Gender and Development Series: Early Marriage in the Arab Region (2014, expected accomplishment (a)).

(ii) *Non-recurrent publications*

- a. Women and the Knowledge Society in the Arab Region (2015, expected accomplishment (c));
- b. Addressing Gender-Based Violence in the Arab Region: Status and Institutional Frameworks (2014, expected accomplishment (b));
- c. The Social and Economic Situation of Women in Conflict-Stricken Areas in the Arab Region (2015, expected accomplishment (b)).

(iii) *Technical material*

- a. The economic and social situation of the Palestinian women (2015, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. ESCWA Centre for Women Gender Newsletter (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishments (a), (b) and (c)).

(iv) *Other printed material*

- a. Information kit for the seventh session of the Committee on Women (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. Poster for the seventh session of the Committee on Women (2015, expected accomplishment (a)).

(v) *Events*

- a. Launching the Status of Arab Women Report: National Laws and International Conventions (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
- b. International Women's Day (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishments (a), (b) and (c)).

(c) *Technical cooperation (extrabudgetary)*

(i) *Advisory services*

Gender mainstreaming and follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and international conventions and resolutions on gender equality and the empowerment of women (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (a)).

(ii) *Training courses, seminars and workshops*

- a. Training workshop on the use of media to empower women in the Arab region (2014, expected accomplishment (c));
- b. Training workshop on women and the knowledge society in the Arab region (2015, expected accomplishment (c)).

(iii) *Field projects*

- a. Institutional capacity-building for Arab parliaments and other stakeholders to implement Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security (Development Account) (2014-2015, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. Establishment of an observatory of women in the Arab region – pilot country Lebanon – in partnership with the Hariri Foundation for Sustainable Human Development (2014-2015, expected accomplishment (a)).

SUBPROGRAMME 7

CONFLICT MITIGATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Objective: To mitigate the impact of conflict and its spillover effects on people and development in the Arab region through strengthening dialogue, peacebuilding, governance and public sector modernization.

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced capacity of member countries affected by conflict to adopt and implement participatory and inclusive governance and development policies	<div data-bbox="810 495 1422 622">(a)(i) Increased number of national State-building initiatives and regulatory frameworks for enhancing national identity and strengthening resilience to conflict</div> <div data-bbox="900 645 1174 676"><i>Performance measures</i></div> <div data-bbox="900 694 1390 891">2010-2011: 0 State-building initiatives/regulatory frameworks Estimate for 2012-2013: 2 State-building initiatives/regulatory frameworks Target for 2014-2015: 3 State-building initiatives/regulatory frameworks</div> <div data-bbox="836 920 1422 1048">(ii) Increased percentage of participants in forums organized under the subprogramme who acknowledge having benefited from its activities and recommendations</div> <div data-bbox="900 1066 1174 1097"><i>Performance measures</i></div> <div data-bbox="900 1106 1430 1370">2010-2011: 0 per cent increase in number of participants who acknowledged benefit Estimate for 2012-2013: 50 per cent increase in number of participants who acknowledged benefit Target for 2014-2015: 75 per cent increase in number of participants who acknowledged benefit</div> <div data-bbox="829 1393 1362 1556">(iii) Increased number of member countries which seek and receive technical or substantive assistance under the subprogramme for enhancing national identity and citizenship</div> <div data-bbox="900 1570 1174 1601"><i>Performance measures</i></div> <div data-bbox="900 1610 1305 1709">2010-2011: 0 request Estimate for 2012-2013: 1 request Target for 2014-2015: 2 requests</div>
(b) Enhanced capacity of member countries to mitigate the negative impact of occupation, the ramifications of conflict and their spillover effects on human development in the region, particularly on Arab least developed countries	(b)(i) Increased percentage of official representatives acknowledging that they have benefited from the analysis and policy recommendations contained in the publications under the subprogramme on conflict and its ramifications

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
(c) Enhanced capacity of public institutions of member countries to create an enabling environment for development, pre-empting conflicts	<i>Performance measures</i>
	2010-2011: 0 per cent increase in number of representatives who acknowledged benefit Estimate for 2012-2013: 50 per cent increase in number of representatives who acknowledged benefit Target for 2014-2015: 75 per cent increase in number of representatives who acknowledged benefit
	(ii) Increased number of policies or programmes adopted by member countries to implement decisions made as part of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020
	<i>Performance measures</i>
	2010-2011: 0 policy/programme Estimate for 2012-2013: 1 policy/programme Target for 2014-2015: 2 policies/programmes
	(iii) Increased number of participants in forums organized under the subprogramme who acknowledge having benefited from its activities and recommendations
	<i>Performance measures</i>
	2010-2011: 20 participants acknowledged benefit Estimate for 2012-2013: 25 participants acknowledged benefit Target for 2014-2015: 35 participants acknowledged benefit
	(c)(i) Increased number of public institutions and civil society organizations applying nationally led and owned good governance practices to strengthen the institutional and organizational capacity of civil services and improve the quality of public service delivery
	<i>Performance measures</i>
	2010-2011: 5 public institutions/civil society organizations Estimate for 2012-2013: 10 public institutions/civil society organizations Target for 2014-2015: 15 public institutions/civil society organizations

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
(ii) Increased percentage of participants in forums organized under the subprogramme who acknowledge having benefited from its activities and recommendations	<p><i>Performance measures</i></p> <p>2010-2011: 0 per cent increase in number of participants who acknowledged benefit Estimate for 2012-2013: 50 per cent increase in number of participants who acknowledged benefit Target for 2014-2015: 75 per cent increase in number of participants who acknowledged benefit</p>
(iii) Increased number of member countries which seek and receive technical or substantive assistance under the subprogramme for improving quality of public service delivery	<p><i>Performance measures</i></p> <p>2010-2011: 0 request Estimate for 2012-2013: 1 request Target for 2014-2015: 2 requests</p>

STRATEGY

19.66 The responsibility for implementing subprogramme 7 lies with the Emerging and Conflict-Related Issues Division. The development process in the Arab region has mostly been characterized by limited, poor-quality indicators of governance and socioeconomic development, particularly in conflict-afflicted countries. This has been further exacerbated by rentierism and limited citizen participation in policymaking or decision-making. The events of 2011, however, have indicated a popular will demanding change in developmental governance, including a strong demand for transparency, accountability and participation. ESCWA is increasingly expected to play a role in enhancing the capacity of member countries to adopt and implement good governance practice and inclusive approaches. It will aim to enhance peacebuilding and national identity, which will be the implicit outcome of a more effective public sector, accessible to all citizens and catering to national development priorities.

19.67 ESCWA will assist member countries in enhancing their capacity to mitigate the negative impact of conflict, including tension between communities, the lack of proper resource distribution and limited participation, through the formulation of policies and programmes that aim to strengthen State institutions to overcome the adverse effects of conflict and lead national reconciliation processes.

19.68 To achieve its expected accomplishments with regard to the good governance and resilience strategic pillar, work under the subprogramme will focus on three main areas: the promotion of peacebuilding and inclusive governance; the identification and analysis of trends and suggestion of mitigation and awareness raising measures; and institutional development and civil service advancement with the aim of improving service delivery.

19.69 The promotion of peacebuilding and inclusive governance will be achieved by identifying and promoting inclusive governance practices within State and non-State entities to secure citizen engagement in

decision-making processes, and enhancing resource management capacity between tiers of government with the aim of securing a more efficient and equitable distribution of services. To this end, work under the subprogramme will be aimed at engaging relevant stakeholders (Governments, civil society organizations, academic institutions and citizens) through meetings and staff missions so that their perspective and knowledge can be considered and included when formulating research, policy recommendations and capacity-building programmes.

19.70 The identification and analysis of trends and suggestion of mitigation and awareness raising measures will be realized through the provision of cutting-edge research into the root causes of conflict, its impact and spillover effects. The subprogramme will also provide analyses of the socioeconomic impact of the Israeli occupation on the Palestinian people in the occupied territories, in its annual report on the subject, and will enhance awareness of the negative repercussions of such occupation. This focus area will be supported by studies, reports based on field assessments and analysis of trends.

19.71 Institutional development and civil service advancement with the aim of improving service delivery will be realized through capacity development and knowledge-building in the form of meetings, advisory services and staff missions, and research into institutional development strategies to strengthen public sector performance, in addition to the provision of high-quality policy options and sharing of good practice. To this end, work under the subprogramme will focus on promoting the establishment of mechanisms for exchange of information and good practice among decision makers throughout the region, particularly on the topics of public service delivery, support for the region's least developed countries and good governance.

EXTERNAL FACTORS

Subprogramme 7 will achieve its expected accomplishments provided that: (a) there is no sudden shortfall in funding; (b) the political environment in some member countries remains conducive to promoting citizenship, reconciliation, State-building strategies and good governance; and (c) central or federal State institutions are not reluctant to inducing participatory governance in planning and monitoring processes.

OUTPUTS

During the biennium 2014-2015, the following outputs are expected to be delivered under subprogramme 7:

(a) *Servicing intergovernmental and expert bodies*

(i) *Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (twenty-eighth session)*

Parliamentary documentation:

- a. Report on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. Report on the consultative meeting on establishing a committee on emerging issues and development in conflict settings (to be held in 2013) (2014, expected accomplishment (b)).

(ii) *Committee on emerging issues and development in conflict settings* (to be established)

Servicing the meetings of the first session of the anticipated committee on emerging issues and development (2015, expected accomplishments (a), (b) and (c)).

(iii) *Ad hoc expert groups*

Four expert group meetings on:

- a. An international forum on the development of Palestine (2014, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. Challenges of reform during transition to democracy (2014, expected accomplishment (c));
- c. The Arab Governance Report: findings and recommendations (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
- d. Monitoring governance progress (2015, expected accomplishments (a) and (c)).

(b) *Other substantive activities*

(i) *Recurrent publications*

- a. Trends and Impacts in Conflict Settings (Issue 3): Development under Occupation (2014, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. Arab Governance Report (2015, expected accomplishment (a)).

(ii) *Non-recurrent publications*

Democratic Transition and Participation: Prospects for a Citizen-Based State (2015, expected accomplishments (a) and (c)).

(iii) *Technical material*

- a. Working papers on:
 - i. Challenges of reform and transition to democracy: Tunisia (2014, expected accomplishment (a));
 - ii. Challenges of reform and transition to democracy: Egypt (2014, expected accomplishment (a));
 - iii. Challenges of reform and transition to democracy: Libya (2014, expected accomplishment (a));
 - iv. Multi-sectoral regional cooperation for socioeconomic development in Palestine (2014, expected accomplishment (b));
 - v. Clear and transparent mechanisms of governance during political transition (2014, expected accomplishment (c));
 - vi. Monitoring the implementation of the Istanbul Conference (2015, expected accomplishment (b));
 - vii. Triggers of conflict and crises (2015, expected accomplishment (c));
- b. Online dissemination strategy (website) for the Arab Governance Report (2015, expected accomplishment (a));
- c. Monthly political review on transition and conflict-affected countries (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishments (a) and (b)).

(iv) *Other printed material*

- a. Booklet on the socioeconomic conditions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (2014, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. Factsheets on the socioeconomic conditions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (2015, expected accomplishment (b));
- c. Brochure and fact sheet on emerging issues (2015, expected accomplishment (c));
- d. Wall chart on the impact of conflict and occupation on the socioeconomic development of the Palestinian people (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (b)).

(v) *Contribution to joint outputs*

- a. Subprogramme 6 expert group meeting on the social and economic situation of women in conflict-stricken areas in the Arab region (2015, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. Subprogramme 6 non-recurrent publication, The Social and Economic Situation of Women in Conflict-Stricken Areas in the Arab Region (2015, expected accomplishment (b)).

(vi) *Contribution to activities of other United Nations agencies*

- a. Contribution to the United Nations Public Administration Network website with ESCWA publications and training modules on governance (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (c));
- b. Contribution to the work of the United Nations Country Teams in conflict-affected countries and countries in transition (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (b));
- c. Contribution to the work of the Division for Public Administration and Development Management of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs on inclusive governance (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (c)).

(viii) *Events*

- a. International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People (2014 and 2015, expected accomplishment (b));
- b. Launching the report on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan (2014 and 2014, expected accomplishment (b));
- c. Launching the Arab Governance Report (2015, expected accomplishment (a)).

(c) *Technical cooperation (extrabudgetary)**Field projects*

- (i) Iraq-Public Sector Modernization - Phase II (2014, expected accomplishment (c));
- (ii) Civic values and life skills for adolescents in Libya and/or Palestine (2014, expected accomplishment (a));
- (iii) Assessing and monitoring progress on governance in the Arab region (2014, expected accomplishment (c)).

Annex

LEGISLATIVE MANDATES

General mandates

General Assembly resolutions

55/2	United Nations Millennium Declaration
57/270 A and B	Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields
60/1	2005 World Summit Outcome
61/16	Strengthening of the Economic and Social Council
62/208	Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
63/17	Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States
63/232	Implementation of the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010
64/1	High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation
64/210	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence
64/221	South-South cooperation
64/223	Towards global partnerships
65/126	Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States
65/140	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference
65/171	Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries
65/174	Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017)
65/191	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third Special session of the General Assembly
65/214	Human rights and extreme poverty
65/311	Multilingualism
66/155	The right to development

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1818 (LV)	Establishment of an economic commission for Western Asia
1985/69	Amendment of the terms of reference of the Economic Commission for Western Asia: change of name of the Commission
1998/46	Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields
2005/50	The Damascus Declaration and the role of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia in the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration
2008/8	Admission of the Sudan as a member of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
2008/21	Mainstreaming disability in the development agenda
2009/29	Role of the Economic and Social Council in the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, in the light of relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 61/16
2010/13	Mainstreaming disability in the development agenda
2010/22	Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 62/208 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
2010/27	Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010
2010/38	The need to harmonize and improve United Nations informatics systems for optimal utilization and accessibility by all States
2011/2	Report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its ninth session
2011/5	The role of the United Nations system in implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to gender equality and the empowerment of women
2011/6	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia resolutions

258 (XXIII)	Strengthening technical cooperation in the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
260 (XXIII)	Development and regional cooperation under unstable conditions
261 (XXIII)	Strengthening the cooperation between ESCWA and the League of Arab States in the field of economic and social development

263 (XXIII)	Promoting partnership and resource mobilization
269 (XXIV)	The role of ESCWA in the light of the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document and the subsequent change process
272 (XXIV)	Youth employment in ESCWA member countries
286 (XXV)	Gender statistics for equality and empowerment of women
289 (XXV)	Supporting the comprehensive development efforts of Yemen
310 (XXVII)	Adoption of the draft strategic framework for the biennium 2014-2015
311 (XXVII)	Adoption of session reports of the subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Subprogramme 1

Integrated management of natural resources for sustainable development

General Assembly resolutions

57/253	World Summit on Sustainable Development
63/217	Natural disasters and vulnerability
63/281	Climate change and its possible security implications
64/197	Agricultural technology for development
64/198	Midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015
64/201	United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (2010-2020)
64/206	Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy
65/151	International Year of Sustainable Energy for All
65/152	Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development
65/153	Follow-up to the International Year of Sanitation, 2008
65/154	International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013
65/157	International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
65/160	Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa
65/178	Agriculture development and food security

Economic and Social Council resolutions

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| 2006/49 | Outcome of the sixth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests |
| 2009/28 | The role of the United Nations system in implementing the ministerial declaration on the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to sustainable development adopted at the high-level segment of the 2008 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council in 2008 |

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia resolutions

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| 269 (XXIV) | The role of ESCWA in the light of the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document and the subsequent change process |
| 281 (XXV) | Addressing climate change issues in the Arab region |
| 305 (XXVII) | Sustainable development in the region and follow-up and implementation of the decisions of the Rio+20 Conference |

Subprogramme 2
Social development

General Assembly resolutions

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| 64/154 | Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto |
| 64/166 | Protection of migrants |
| 65/170 | International migration and development |
| 65/186 | Realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities towards 2015 and beyond |
| 65/312 | Outcome document of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on Youth: Dialogue and Mutual Understanding |
| 66/121 | Policies and programmes involving youth |
| 66/122 | Promoting social integration through social inclusion |
| 66/124 | High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities |
| 66/125 | Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly |
| 66/126 | Preparations for and observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family |
| 66/127 | Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing |

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2006/4	Sustained economic growth for social development, including the eradication of poverty and hunger
2006/15	Promoting youth employment
2006/16	Comprehensive and integral international convention to protect and promote the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities
2006/18	Future organization and methods of work of the Commission for Social Development
2007/2	The role of the United Nations system in providing full and productive employment and decent work for all
2008/18	Promoting full employment and decent work for all
2010/12	Promoting social integration
2010/13	Mainstreaming disability in the development agenda
2010/14	Future implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002
2011/5	The role of the United Nations system in implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to gender equality and the empowerment of women
2011/27	Further promotion of equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities and mainstreaming disability issues in the development agenda
2011/28	Modalities for the second review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia resolutions

285 (XXV)	Integrated social policy
295 (XXVI)	Guiding Declaration of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on giving greater attention to Youth Policies: An Opportunity for Development
298 (XXVI)	Social development
304 (XXVII)	The role of participation and social justice in achieving sustainable development

Subprogramme 3

Economic development and integration

General Assembly resolutions

64/188	International trade and development
64/191	External debt sustainability and development
64/255	Improving global road safety

- 65/10 Sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth for poverty eradication and achievement of the Millennium Development Goals
- 65/145 Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development
- 65/178 Agriculture development and food security

Economic and Social Council resolutions

- 2006/4 Sustained economic growth for social development, including the eradication of poverty and hunger
- 2007/36 United Nations Public-Private Alliance for Rural Development
- 2008/18 Promoting full employment and decent work for all
- 2009/30 A strengthened and more effective intergovernmental inclusive process to carry out the financing for development follow-up
- 2011/38 Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia resolutions

- 270 (XXIV) Macroeconomic policy for financial stability
- 279 (XXIV) Follow-up to implementation of components of the Integrated Transport System in the Arab Mashreq
- 290 (XXV) Call for regional action to accelerate implementation of the Monterrey Consensus in Western Asia
- 296 (XXVI) Enhancing public sector institutions and resources to attain national development goals

Subprogramme 4

Information and communications technology for regional integration

General Assembly resolutions

- 60/252 World Summit on the Information Society
- 64/130 Policies and programmes involving youth
- 64/212 Science and technology for development
- 65/141 Information and communications technologies for development

Economic and Social Council resolutions

- 2007/8 Flow of information for the follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society
- 2009/8 Science and technology for development

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| 2010/5 | Establishment of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia Technology Centre |
| 2011/16 | Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society |

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia resolutions

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| 273 (XXIV) | Follow-up to the development of the Information Society in Western Asia |
| 294 (XXVI) | Establishment of the ESCWA Technology Centre |

Subprogramme 5
Statistics for evidence-based policymaking

General Assembly resolutions

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| 64/137 | Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women |
| 64/139 | Violence against women migrant workers |
| 64/217 | Women in development |
| 65/170 | International migration and development |
| 65/186 | Realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities towards 2015 and beyond |
| 66/127 | Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing |

Economic and Social Council resolutions

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| 2006/6 | Strengthening statistical capacity |
| 2011/5 | The role of the United Nations system in implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to gender equality and the empowerment of women |
| 2011/27 | Further promotion of equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities and mainstreaming disability issues in the development agenda |

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia resolutions

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| 276 (XXIV) | Strengthening statistical capacities in the ESCWA region |
| 283 (XXV) | ESCWA member country compliance with international standards for enhancing national statistical systems |
| 287 (XXV) | Strengthening statistical capacities for evidence-based policymaking |
| 295 (XXVI) | Guiding Declaration of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on giving greater attention to Youth Policies: An Opportunity for Development |
| 297 (XXVI) | Arab MDG monitor for societal progress |

Subprogramme 6

Advancement of women

General Assembly resolutions

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| 64/137 | Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women |
| 64/217 | Women in development |
| 66/131 | Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women |
| 66/132 | Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third Special session of the General Assembly |

Economic and Social Council resolution

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| 2011/5 | The role of the United Nations system in implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to gender equality and the empowerment of women |
| 2011/18 | Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women |

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia resolutions

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| 278 (XXIV) | Increasing the role of women in decision-making with respect to conflict prevention and peacebuilding |
| 293 (XXVI) | Upgrading the ESCWA Centre for Women to the level of a division and follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action in the Arab countries after fifteen years: Beijing+15 |

Subprogramme 7

Conflict mitigation and development

General Assembly resolutions

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| 66/118 | Assistance to the Palestinian people |
| 66/146 | The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination |
| 66/225 | Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources |

Economic and Social Council resolutions

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| 2011/2 | Report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its ninth session |
| 2011/22 | Report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its ninth session |
| 2011/41 | Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan |

Security Council resolution

1645 (2005) Post-conflict peacebuilding

1947 (2010) Post-conflict peacebuilding

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia resolutions

271 (XXIV) Strengthening the role of ESCWA in addressing the impact of conflict and instability within the context of social and economic development

282 (XXV) Mitigating the impact on development of conflict, occupation and instability in ESCWA member countries

292 (XXVI) Upgrading the Section for Emerging and Conflict-Related Issues to the level of a division

296 (XXVI) Enhancing public sector institutions and resources to attain national development goals

307 (XXVII) Support for the Palestinian people
